

INTERAGENCY CLASSIFICATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20408

77-9585

OCT 26 1977

Mr. John F. Blake  
Acting Deputy Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr. Blake:

The President's expressed interest in increasing openness in government has added importance to the proper handling of requests for declassification of information submitted under provisions of Executive Order 11652, Section 5(C). Although the quality and thoroughness of review prior to decision is important, it is equally important to respond to requesters within time limits established by the Order.

Reports to the Committee show that as of December 31, 1976, CIA had completed processing 78% of the 441 requests it received for consideration during the year. Of the 95 cases carried forward to 1977, 33% were 60 days old as of the end of the year. In the first half of 1977, CIA had for consideration almost as many cases as it did during the entire year of 1976 (428). Incomplete cases carried forward for action as of June 30, 1977 was 38% of the total -- as opposed to 22% as of December 31, 1976. The number of cases over 60 days old as of the end of the reporting period was 98, 60% of the total carried forward. In summary, the case load is increasing rapidly, as is the number of cases which have not been completed within the time limits specified by the Order.

I know there are many factors which have contributed to this unfavorable situation, some of which are beyond your control. However, I believe your personal attention is warranted to reverse the trend.

I would appreciate your informing me of special problems encountered and actions you take in this matter.

Sincerely,

*James B. Rhoads*

JAMES B. RHOADS  
Acting Chairman

Approved For Release 2004/07/08 : CIA-RDP80M00165A001900080013-3

# EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

## Routing Slip

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1	DCI				
2	DDCI		✓		
3	D/DCI/IC				
4	DDS&T				
5	DDI				
6	DDA	✓			
7	DDO				
8	D/DCI/NI				
9	GC				
10	LC				
11	IG				
12	Compt				
13	D/Pers				
14	D/S				
15	DTR				
16	A/DCI/PA				
17	AO/DCI				
18	C/IPS				
19	DCI/SS				
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SUSPENSE		8 NOV Date			

Remarks:

*As prepare response for Mr. Chabir  
signature.*

Executive Secretary

1 NOV  
Date

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